

Dear Commissioner Henney:

7400 '99 MAY 10 19:43

I don't approve of your decision to allow food to be irradiated. Irradiated food may not be able to solve all our food problems. Maybe there is a safer way to get rid of the bacteria that's in our food today. In the following paragraphs, I will include details and reasons why the FDA should stop irradiation.

First of all, you may be eating spoiled food and you wouldn't know it. Irradiation takes away the mold, odor, and taste of spoiled food. Leonard Solon from the Los Angeles Times warns, "Irradiation can kill the organisms that produce signals and odors that warn people they are eating spoiled food."

Some people also just won't accept food that was irradiated. From Gannet News Service, they say there are some "people won't eat irradiated food even if you put a gun to their head." Also from Los Angeles Times, in a survey of 60 people, 58 people said irradiation "scares the daylights out of them."

Irradiation may also give meat strange odors and colors. The Los Angeles Times also claims that irradiation can "alter meat color and give a rancid odor." Some pork would turn a bright shade of red if irradiated.

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The FDA's decision to irradiate food is absolutely out of the questions! Maybe some day if we use it too much, it won't work anymore. Please stop this idea that irradiation is wonderful. I believe it's not ... at all. I feel you should not

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continue it after what you have read and what you have heard

Sincerely,

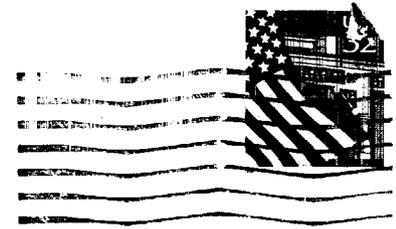
~~RACHEL MOK~~

Rachel Mok

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885-1038

Rachel MOK
7016 Pawn Trail Ct
Bethesda, MD 20817



Commissioner Jane E. Henney, M.D.
FDA (HFE-88)
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

